



R3-10-001-4592-C

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

SEP 24 2010

The Honorable Frank M. Kratovil, Jr.  
Member, United States House of Representatives  
Bel Air District Office  
202 South Main Street  
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

Dear Representative Kratovil:

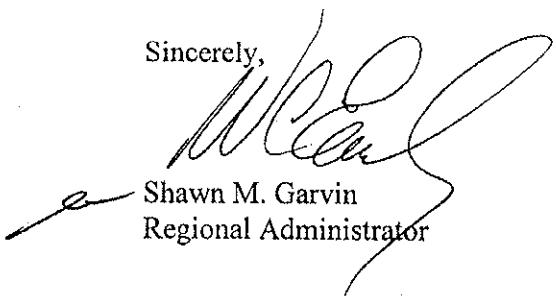
Thank you for the follow up inquiry of August 5, 2010 to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on behalf of your constituent, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ is involved in litigation against Baltimore County, for breach of a settlement agreement related to condemnation of his property. The breach of settlement agreement claim remains to be tried before a jury. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ alleges that the settlement included conditions related to the Maryland state law equivalent of the federal Uniform Relocation Act (URA).

As a follow up to my letter of June 24, 2010, my staff advises me that Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ claim remains pending in the Maryland Circuit Court. Procedurally, before EPA becomes involved, a claimant must first seek redress under the equivalent state statute, if there is one, as there is in this case. Therefore, EPA would not evaluate whether federal funds are involved such as to implicate the URA until Mr. \_\_\_\_\_'s pending claim is resolved in state court.

Pending the outcome of that matter, EPA has no basis to determine whether it has any responsibility under the URA. Jeffrey Grant Cook, counsel for Baltimore County, advised EPA that there are no federal funds involved.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Mrs. Linda Miller, EPA's Maryland Liaison, at 215-814-2068.

Sincerely,

  
Shawn M. Garvin  
Regional Administrator

cc: Jeffrey Grant Cook, Assistant County Attorney



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